

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The above-identified patent application has been amended and reconsideration and re-examination are hereby requested.

The application has been amended to claim the benefit of co-pending patent application Serial No. 09/540,828 filed March 31, 2000 as to subject matter claimed in this patent application that is also described in such co-pending patent application Serial No. 09/540,828 under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. 120. Please note that this patent application was filed before November 29, 2000. Please also note that the inventors MacArthur, Wheeler and Black of this application are also among the joint inventors of the copending patent application Serial No. 09/540,828. In view of the foregoing, U. S. Patent No. 6,651,130 is not prior art to this patent application.

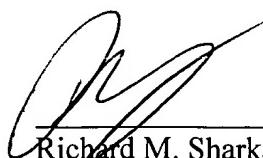
The claims have been amended to point out that the method includes transmitting such message to said receiving one, or ones, of the directors through the messaging network with such messages by-passing the data transfer section (emphasis added, thereby further distinguishing over Nakayama et al, and Idleman et al.

In the event any additional fee is required, please charge such amount to Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 50-0845.

Respectfully submitted,

Date

4-15-04



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